

## REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are now pending. Claims 1 and 13 have been amended. Claims 23-32 are withdrawn in response to a restriction requirement. Applicant requests reconsideration and reexamination of the pending claims.

Formal drawings are submitted herewith.

Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Frungel (U.S. Patent No. 3,529,208). Applicant overcomes the rejection as follows.

Claim 1 sets forth a method including "opening the inlet and outlet valves which allows substantially simultaneous gas flow into and out from said hollow tube." Thus, the method further provides "removing a first gas initially located within the hollow tube out of the light source through the outlet valve, while providing a second gas into the hollow tube through the inlet valve." Applicant could find no disclosure in Frungel that teaches or suggests such a method or would otherwise motivate one of ordinary skill in the art to arrive at such a method.

Frungel discloses, as shown in FIG. 1, a lamp arrangement where "inlets 8b and 8c are fed by a common conduit 8f and the two inlets 8a and 8b [sic] are fed from the conduit 8e." (Col. 2, lines 41-43) The only outlets for each of the lamps 1a-1d are the same common conduits 8e and 8f through valves 35 and 45, respectively. Since Frungel discloses using the same common conduits to fill and evacuate lamps 1a-1d, it cannot be said that Frungel teaches or suggests opening the inlet and outlet valves which allows substantially simultaneous gas flow into and out from the hollow tube. Moreover, Frungel does not teach or suggest removing a first gas from the hollow tube through the outlet valve, while providing a second gas into the hollow tube through the inlet valve.

Since Frungel does not teach or suggest the invention set forth in Claim 1, Claim 1 is allowable over the reference.

Claim 13 sets forth, a method that includes "opening a first valve of the light source, and opening a second valve of the light source to allow a gas to substantially simultaneously flow through said first and second valves." Applicant could find no disclosure which teaches or suggests such a feature. For reasons stated above with regard to Claim 1, Frungel does not teach or suggest opening the first and second valves to allow substantially simultaneous gas flow into and out from the valves. Accordingly, Claim 13 is allowable over the reference.

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Claims 2-12 depend from Claim 1 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as Claim 1. Claims 14-22 depend from Claim 13 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as Claim 13.

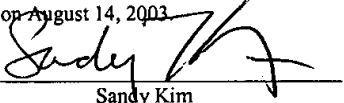
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## CONCLUSION

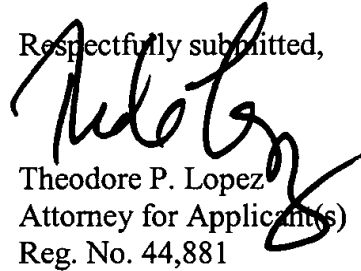
For the above reasons, pending Claims 1-22 are now in condition for allowance and allowance of the application is hereby solicited. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, the Examiner is hereby requested to telephone Applicant's Attorney at (949) 752-7040.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on August 14, 2003.

  
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August 14, 2003  
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,

  
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